

43. Extension Service
U.S. Dept. of Agr.

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EXTENSION COTTON-GINNING SPECIALISTS

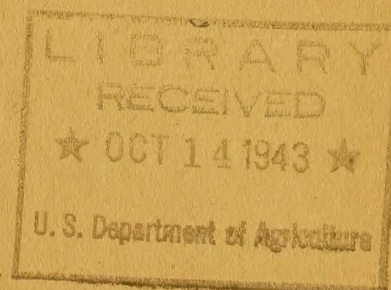
Three Federal extension cotton-ginning specialists have recently been appointed by the Extension Service, War Food Administration, to carry information from the United States Cotton-Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss., to cotton ginners throughout the Cotton Belt concerning the selection, maintenance, and operation of cotton-ginning equipment. Their work is expected to aid in bringing about a general improvement in grade in the cottons especially needed for military and related uses.

These specialists will cooperate with State agricultural extension services and their county agents in work with cotton ginners and farmers to bring about clean, dry picking of cotton and such improvement in ginning as can be obtained in spite of scarcity of skilled cotton pickers. In doing this essential work for the War Food Administration, they will be aided by the regional office of the Cotton and Fiber Branch, Food Distribution Administration, in determining the areas in which adverse weather or other conditions are causing losses in grade due to poor preparation of cotton.

One of these specialists, Mr. Fred P. Johnson, is stationed at the U. S. Cotton-Ginning Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss. He carries on field work in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and western Tennessee, and continues his previous contacts in North Carolina. Mr. Johnson has been employed by the North Carolina State Department of Agriculture since 1937 in a similar program. He has cooperated with the U. S. Laboratory and the North Carolina State Agricultural Extension Service in assisting ginners to improve their ginning facilities and methods of operation, with very gratifying results in the records for upgrading the preparation of cotton in that State. Prior to 1937, he had 18 years of experience in cotton ginning, including the commercial erection of plants and the operation and management of gins.

Mr. J. C. Oglesbee, Jr., with headquarters at the Cotton Division, Southern Region, Food Distribution Administration, Western Union Building, Atlanta, Ga., is the specialist for Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, and eastern Tennessee. For the past 9 years he has been an agricultural engineering specialist for the Georgia State Agricultural Extension Service, and for 7 years of that time has conducted cotton-ginning improvement work in cooperation with the U. S. Cotton-Ginning Laboratory. This work, conducted through county agricultural extension agents, promoted clean, dry picking of cotton, and provided service and advice to ginners based on the experimental work of the U. S. Laboratory.

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Mr. Alfred M. Pendleton, specialist for the Southwest, will limit his work this season to Texas and Oklahoma. His headquarters will be at the Cotton Division, Southwest Region, 425 Wilson Building, Dallas, Texas. Mr. Pendleton has been engaged in the management and operation of cotton gins since 1932, and since 1937 has been in charge of operations of the cotton gins of the East Texas Cotton Oil. This work has involved modernizing as well as new installation of cotton-ginning equipment in numerous gins. His consultations with the U.S. Cotton-Ginning Laboratory in planning gin installations have given him practical experience for his Extension Service work.

Attention to requests for specialist service from cotton gins in New Mexico, Arizona, California, and Virginia will be handled this year, as heretofore, through the U. S. Cotton-Ginning Laboratory.

The research work of this laboratory is under the joint direction of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Research Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Cotton and Fiber Branch, Food Distribution Administration, War Food Administration. The laboratory's useful scientific service has been made widely available to cotton farmers, cotton ginners, and manufacturers of cotton cleaning, conditioning, and ginning machinery. State extension service specialists have promoted use of new information from the laboratory in all cotton-producing States. For example, this fall, a vigorous wartime campaign for clean, dry picking is in progress, conducted by county agricultural extension agents and cotton ginners throughout the Cotton Belt. The three Federal specialists will aid State and county extension workers in doing such work as well as in bringing the technical services of the laboratory more directly to cotton ginners than has previously been possible.

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